

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121 the following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended): A pointing input device comprising:

a display panel ~~for displaying~~ operable to display any pointing input information on a display area thereof;

a transparent protective plate laminated on the display area of the display panel;

a piezoelectric substrate attached to the transparent protective plate, ~~for converting~~ operable to convert a deformation caused by a push against the transparent protective plate into an electric signal and further operable to output ~~outputting~~ the electric signal; and

an optical touch panel disposed on the transparent protective plate, ~~for emitting~~ operable to emit light beams for reticulately scanning an input operation area of the optical touch panel along orthogonal X and Y directions to detect a pointing input and a pointing input position in the input operation area when the light beams are intercepted by the pointing input, the input operation area having a display area ~~of the input operation area being~~ that is visible through the transparent protective plate[[:]],

wherein the pointing input device ~~outputting~~ determines pointing position data indicating the pointing input position[[:]] while the optical touch panel detects the pointing input, and



wherein the pointing input device outputting outputs pointing position data detected by the optical touch panel when the electric signal is outputted from the piezoelectric substrate and the push against the transparent protective plate is judged while the optical touch panel is detecting the pointing input, thereby indicating an activation of the pointing input device and preventing accidental activation of the device resulting from a momentary disruption in the light beams emitted by the optical touch panel.

3. (Previously Presented) A pointing input device comprising:

a display panel for displaying any pointing input information on a display area thereof;

a transparent protective plate laminated on the display area of the display panel;

a piezoelectric substrate attached to the transparent protective plate, for converting deformation caused by a push against the transparent protective plate into an electric signal and outputting the electric signal; and

an optical touch panel disposed on the transparent protective plate, for emitting light beams for reticulately scanning an input operation area of the optical touch panel along orthogonal X and Y directions to detect a pointing input and a pointing input position in the input operation area when the light beams are intercepted by the pointing input, a display area of the input operation area being visible through the transparent protective plate;

the pointing input device outputting pointing position data indicating the pointing input position, while the optical touch panel detects the pointing input,

the pointing input device outputting push detection data together with the pointing position data, when the electric signal is outputted from the piezoelectric substrate and the push against the transparent protective plate is judged while the optical touch panel is detecting the pointing input;

wherein the piezoelectric substrate comprises a pair of piezoelectric substrates of narrow and elongated shape, and the piezoelectric substrates are attached to the transparent protective plate and are orthogonal to each other.

4. (Previously Presented) A pointing input device comprising:

a display panel for displaying any pointing input information on a display area thereof;

a transparent protective plate laminated on the display area of the display panel;

a piezoelectric substrate attached to the transparent protective plate, for converting deformation caused by a push against the transparent protective plate into an electric signal and outputting the electric signal; and

an optical touch panel disposed on the transparent protective plate, for emitting light beams for reticulately scanning an input operation area of the optical touch panel along orthogonal X and Y directions to detect a pointing input and a pointing input position in the input operation area when the light beams are intercepted by the pointing input, a display area of the input operation area being visible through the transparent protective plate,



input, and to output push detection data together with the pointing position data only when the controller has determined that the electric signal is present during detection of the pointing input.

8. (New): The pointing input device of claim 2, further comprising:

a controller operable to determine if the piezoelectric substrate has output the electric signal indicating a push against the transparent protective plate, to determine if the push against the transparent protective plate has occurred while the optical touch panel is detecting the pointing input, and to output the pointing position data detected by the optical touch panel only when the controller has determined that the electric signal is present during detection of the pointing input.

9. (New) The pointing input device as set forth in claim 7, wherein the pointing input device outputs pointing position data detected by the optical touch panel when the controller determines that the electric signal outputted from the piezoelectric substrate is equal to or greater than a predetermined threshold voltage, the push against the transparent protective plate is greater than a predetermined pushing force, and the push against the transparent protective plate occurs while the optical touch panel is detecting the pointing input.

10. (New) The pointing input device as set forth in claim 8, wherein the pointing input device outputs pointing position data detected by the optical touch panel when the controller determines

that the electric signal outputted from the piezoelectric substrate is equal to or greater than a predetermined threshold voltage, the push against the transparent protective plate is greater than a predetermined pushing force, and the push against the transparent protective plate occurs while the optical touch panel is detecting the pointing input.

11. (New) The pointing input device of claim 3, further comprising:

a controller operable to determine if the piezoelectric substrate has output the electric signal indicating a push against the transparent protective plate, to determine if the push against the transparent protective plate has occurred while the optical touch panel is detecting the pointing input, and to output push detection data together with the pointing position data only when the controller has determined that the electric signal is present during detection of the pointing input.

12. (New) The pointing input device of claim 4, further comprising:

a controller operable to determine if the piezoelectric substrate has output the electric signal indicating a push against the transparent protective plate, to determine if the push against the transparent protective plate has occurred while the optical touch panel is detecting the pointing input, and to output push detection data together with the pointing position data only when the controller has determined that the electric signal is present during detection of the pointing input.

13. (New) The pointing input device as set forth in claim 11, wherein the pointing input device outputs pointing position data detected by the optical touch panel when the controller determines that the electric signal outputted from the piezoelectric substrate is equal to or greater than a predetermined threshold voltage, the push against the transparent protective plate is greater than a predetermined pushing force, and the push against the transparent protective plate occurs while the optical touch panel is detecting the pointing input.

14. (New) The pointing input device as set forth in claim 12, wherein the pointing input device outputs pointing position data detected by the optical touch panel when the controller determines that the electric signal outputted from the piezoelectric substrate is equal to or greater than a predetermined threshold voltage, the push against the transparent protective plate is greater than a predetermined pushing force, and the push against the transparent protective plate occurs while the optical touch panel is detecting the pointing input.